(b) the number of army personnel posted before and after President's Rule;

(c) whether Government are aware of the facts that the burning of Manipur Assembly buildings and VIPs houses etc. are mainly due to secruity lapse; and

(d) if so, the steps taken to tackle security lapses?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) Situation in Manipur has been a cause of concern even before imposition of President's Rule on 2.6.2001, and an Action Plan was formulated for tackling militancy and improving administration.

(b) Prior to the imposition of President's Rule, Manipur had adequate number of security forces including Army, Assam Rifles, CRPF, BSF and State Police Forces. After imposition of the President's Rule, more security forces has been inducted to deal with the current situation.

(c) and (d) There was a sharp reaction in Manipur against the extension of ceasefire with NSCN(I-M) without territorial limits, particularly among students that led to burning of a part of the Assembly and other buildings. However, the security set-up in the State was strengthened to tackle the situation.

Purview and rights of Human Rights Commission

†3245. SHRI RAMA SHANKER KAUSHIK: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the purview and rights of Human Rights Commission;

(b) what is the justification of the order given by the Human Rights Commission to inquire into the incident of killing of Pak terrorist in Batla House encounter;

(c) whether Government are contemplating or intend to determine the purview and rights of the Commission; and

(d) if so, the details thereof; if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHENNAMANENI VIDYA SAGAR RAO): (a) The functions and powers of the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) have been provided in detail under Sections 12 to 16 of the Protection of Human Rights Act, 1993 which is a public document.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) The NHRC had taken cognizance of a complaint alleging human rights violation in an incident of killing of a persons in the Batla House encounter on 1.1.2001. The matter was however, closed by the Commission on 30.5.2001 after considering a report in this regard.

(c) and (d) The NHRC had made some suggestions for amending the Protection of Human Rights Act, 1993. The proposed amendments relate to structure and powers of the Commission, constitution of State Human Rights Commission, transfer of complaints/inquiries to State Commission etc. These suggestions are being examined by the Government.

Making North-Eastern Council a functional body

3246. SHRI W. ANGOU SINGH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any plan to convert the North-Eastern Council as a functional body instead of advisory one;

(b) whether it is a fact that the NEC has taken up works which are not of regional interest; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) No, Sir. However, NEC (Amendment) Bill, 1998 in the modified form intends to make NEC more effective.

(b) Yes, Sir. NEC has taken up some projects which are not of regional nature.

(c) The decision has been taken by the Council.

Arrival of refugees in India

†3247. SHRIMATI KUM KUM RAI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the country-wise details regarding the number of refugees arrived in India;

(b) the amount spent by India on refugees during the last decade;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.